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APPLICANT: John L. Tomich, et al.

EXAMINER:

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TITLE: PHOTONIC HOME AREA NETWORK

December 11, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAILING CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(A)  
I hereby certify that the above correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 11, 2001.

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**Preliminary Amendment**

Prior to examination on the merits, the applicant hereby respectfully submits the following preliminary amendment regarding the above captioned patent application.

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the claims:**

Please amend claims 1-15, and add new claims 16-62 without prejudice as follows:

**Please amend claim 1 as follows:**

1. (once amended)      Apparatus for a service node used in a multimedia network comprising:
  - a data distributor circuit;
  - a data port adapted to couple with a data stream, said data distributor circuit having a relational code adapted to determine whether an address field of a data packet from said data